

1999

- **State Literacy Program** requires each district and elementary school to implement plans to have all students reading at or above grade level by the end of grade 3.
- Local school boards empowered to establish transitional **alternative middle schools** for students aged 11–15 needing structured climate, parental involvement, community resources, and SEOPs.
- **Educator Licensing and Professional Practices Act** mandates new, rigorous standards for professional educator licensing, disciplinary and hearing procedures, and substitute teachers.
- **Annual Criterion-Referenced Testing** at all grade levels; **Norm-Referenced Testing** in grades 3, 5, 8, and 11; **Demonstrated Competency** skills for courses required for high school graduation; and **Basic Skills Competency Testing** in grade 10 implemented.
- Year-two funds support progress of the **28 Schools for the 21st Century** to meet measurable academic goals and improve conditions for teaching and learning.
- **Highly Impacted Schools Program** continues to support 53 schools serving Utah's most severely disadvantaged children and youth.
- State Board of Education approves six pilot **charter schools** for which the 1998 Legislature allocated start-up funds.
- **Modified Centennial Schools** complete three-year funding cycle; remaining 62 **Centennial Schools** funded for third and final year.
- U.S. Department of Education award anticipated to fund sixth year of Utah collaborative, multi-district **Goals 2000** staff development projects.
- Federal Title I and Title X funds expected to sustain Utah's 11 **Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration** schools.

UTAH PUBLIC SCHOOL REFORM TIES

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2000

- **Utah Performance Assessment System** requires norm-referenced testing in grades 3, 5, 8, and 11; Criterion-Referenced Testing in all grades; direct writing assessment in grades 6 and 9; Basic Skills Competency Testing in grade 10; and student behavior indicators.
- Sequential elementary school pilot **arts program** launched to improve overall academic excellence.
- Seven of Utah's eight pilot **charter schools**, funded by the 1998 Legislature, continue operating; Center City School opens in fall 2000.
- New requirements for **educator license renewal** take effect in July 2000.
- **Utah Reading Excellence Act** implemented to have all students reading at or above grade level by end of grade 3 and support early childhood and parent/family literacy.
- Utah's 28 **Schools for the 21st Century** work to meet their three-year measurable academic goals and improve conditions for teaching and learning.
- **Service-Learning, Character Education, and Safe and Drug-Free Schools** continue to enrich and integrate student experiences and improve school climate.
- **Highly Impacted Schools Program** continues to support 54 schools serving Utah's most severely disadvantaged children and youth.
- **School LAND Trust Program** begins paying annual stipends in July 2000 to all public schools with plans to meet identified academic needs.
- U.S. Department of Education expected to fund seventh year of Utah's collaborative, multi-district **Goals 2000** staff development projects.
- Federal and Education Reform Foundation funds continue to support the **Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration Program** at 20 sites.

2001

- The amended **Utah Charter Schools Act** removes the pilot program status of charter schools, allows for creation of an additional four charter schools per year for the next two years under state sponsorship, provides remedies for noncompliance with the Charter Schools Act, and allows sponsorship of charter schools by local school boards.
- Appropriated funds will be used to provide an adequate supply of **textbooks**, and to replace outdated textbooks and textbooks in poor condition.
- Funding has been set aside to reimburse public school teachers for personal expenditures on **classroom supplies** and materials.
- The long-term state goal for every student to read at or above grade level by the end of the third grade is modified in the **Utah Reading Excellence Act**, setting a short-term goal requiring 90 percent or

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2001 (Continued)

- more of all third graders to read at or above grade level by the end of third grade in 2006.
- A modified **Utah Performance Assessment System for Students (U-PASS)** expands categories for reviewing student performance, adds a requirement for staff development to U-PASS, and requires additional data related to reading proficiency, student absenteeism, staff qualifications, attendance, and enrollment.
 - The **Teacher Quality Amendments** provide a comprehensive policy of teacher quality that includes components on recruitment, preservice, licensure, induction, professional development, and evaluation.
 - The **Public Education Capital Outlay Act** significantly increases the state contribution for the Capital Outlay Foundation Program and eliminates the Emergency Building Needs Program.
 - State support guarantee for voted leeways is increased to provide additional state funding and encourage school districts to generate additional local resources for the public schools through the **voted leeway** mechanism.
 - The **Public Education Job Enhancement Program** is launched to provide incentive toward and scholarships to stimulate training, and to retain highly qualified teachers of mathematics, physics, chemistry, and technology.
 - The establishment of an educational enrichment program for hearing and visually impaired students will be funded through the **Institutional Trust Lands Amendments**.

2002

- Teachers in rural schools or small school districts may be eligible for scholarships to obtain endorsements or master's degrees under the **Equity in Education Act**.
- Availability of **education services for disabled students** will extend until the student turns 22 if the student has not graduated from high school with a regular diploma.
- Teachers and parents must be consulted to establish a new **Core Curriculum** and align the curriculum with tests administered under the Utah Performance Assessment System for Students (U-PASS).
- The number of charter schools that may be sponsored by the State Board of Education is increased in this year's **Charter School Amendments**. The amendments also require the State Board to provide technical support to charter schools and those seeking to establish new schools.

- "In God we trust," the **motto of the United States**, will now be displayed in one or more prominent places within each school building.
- Money will be set aside from the Public Education Job Enhancement Program for school administrators to receive **technology training**.
- Each local school board is allowed to adopt and implement an **emergency response plan** for the treatment of sports-related injuries.
- The **Licenses for Educators Act** extends the period of time an educator may retain a Level 1 license.

2003

- High school students are required to pass a **financial literacy course** and an **American government and civics course** in order to graduate.
- An updated **integrated K-2 Core Curriculum** emphasizing reading and math is adopted for the state.
- The method for **electing the Utah State Board of Education** is altered from having 15 geographically represented committees recruit and recommend candidates to having one statewide committee with specific representation recruit and recommend candidates.
- **Core curriculum requirements are to be raised**, but only after receiving input from employers.
- **Competency-based standards** are required to be implemented throughout the educational system. The Utah State Board of Education begins work on implementing this strategy.
- Local school boards are allowed to **license teachers** through a competency-based licensing system.
- Public Education Legislative Task Force receives **requests for proposals** to improve Utah's public schools.
- All Utah public schools begin reporting results of the **Utah Performance Assessment System for Students** as required by state law, and **adequate yearly progress** as required by the federal No Child Left Behind Act.
- A new process for **creating school districts** is enacted.
- A **charter school revolving loan fund** of \$1.5 million is established.
- Secondary students are required to recite the **Pledge of Allegiance** once a week in school.